

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for fecal coliform bacteria in shellfish propagation waters located in Lancaster County, Virginia.

All impaired segments are located wholly within Lancaster County with the exception of the Lancaster Creek and Morattico segments, these are in part located in Richmond County. These areas are described in the following publications:

- 1) Growing Area 22 as described in Virginia Department of Health, Notice and Description of Shellfish Area Condemnation Numbers 116, Rappahannock River: Beach Creek, effective 7 January 1992 and 27 December 2004 respectively.
- 2) Growing Area 22 as described in Virginia Department of Health, Notice and Description of Shellfish Area Condemnation Numbers 94, Rappahannock River: Greenvale Creek, effective 7 November 1994, 21 October 1997, 30 October 1998, 5 February 2003, and 6 October 2005 respectively.
- 3) Growing Area 22 as described in Virginia Department of Health, Notice and Description of Shellfish Area Condemnation Number 114, Rappahannock River: Paynes Creek, effective 27 April 1989.
- 4) Growing Area 23 as described in Virginia Department of Health, Notice and Description of Shellfish Area Condemnation Numbers 121, Rappahannock River: Deep and Mulberry Creeks, effective 25 May 1989, 19 November 1991, 16 November 1992, 16 November 1994, 9 August 2000, 7 July 2001, 17 July 2002, 4 August 2003, 23 September 2004, and 17 August 2005 respectively.
- 5) Growing Area 23 as described in Virginia Department of Health, Notice and Description of Shellfish Area Condemnation Numbers 121, Rappahannock River: Lancaster, Morattico, and Mulberry Creeks, effective 29 October 1986, 19 November 1991, 20 March 1992, 16 November 1994, 14 August 1995, 28

July 1998, 21 July 1999, 9 August 2000, 17 July 2001, 4 August 2003, and 23 September 2004 respectively.

The affected water body segments are identified in Virginia's 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standard for fecal coliform bacteria in shellfish waters. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia, require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report.

The first public meeting on the development of the fecal coliform TMDL's has been rescheduled for **January 5, 2006 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Lancaster Courthouse, General District Room** located at 8311 Mary Ball Road, in Lancaster, Virginia. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on January 9, 2006. Directions can be obtained by calling Chris French at (804) 521-5124.

The public comment period will begin on January 5, 2006, and end at 5.p.m. on February 4, 2006.

Questions or information requests should be addressed to Chris French and should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments. Requests should be sent to Chris French, Department of Environmental Quality, Piedmont Regional Office, Glen Allen, VA, 23060, telephone (804) 527-5124, Fax (804)-527-5106, or e-mail rcfrench@deq.virginia.gov.